

EC-1169. A communication from the General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's fiscal year 2016 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1170. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Internal Control Weaknesses Found in Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1171. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "DCHD Should Improve Management of the Housing Production Trust Fund to Better Meet Affordable Housing Goals"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Rod J. Rosenstein, of Maryland, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Rachel L. Brand, of Iowa, to be Associate Attorney General.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. HATCH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 801. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. SCOTT):

S. 802. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of Lawrence Eugene "Larry" Doby in recognition of his achievements and contributions to American major league athletics, civil rights, and the Armed Forces during World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 803. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny tax deductions for corporate regulatory violations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 804. A bill to improve the provision of health care for women veterans by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 805. A bill to impose a tax on certain trading transactions to invest in our families and communities, improve our infrastructure and our environment, strengthen our financial security, expand opportunity and reduce market volatility; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 806. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act to ensure College for All; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KAINES, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 108. A resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to the United States-Egypt partnership; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 89

At the request of Mrs. McCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 89, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt old vessels that only operate within inland waterways from the fire-retardant materials requirement if the owners of such vessels make annual structural alterations to at least 10 percent of the areas of the vessels that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials and for other purposes.

S. 175

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 175, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the Multiemployer Health Benefit Plan and the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases.

S. 198

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 198, a bill to require continued and enhanced annual reporting to Congress in the Annual Report on International Religious Freedom on anti-Semitic incidents in Europe, the safety and security of European Jewish communities, and the efforts of the United States to

partner with European governments, the European Union, and civil society groups, to combat anti-Semitism, and for other purposes.

S. 324

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 324, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 339, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 382

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 382, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a voluntary registry to collect data on cancer incidence among firefighters.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 407, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 413

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 413, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit prescription drug plan sponsors and MAPD organizations under the Medicare program from retroactively reducing payment on clean claims submitted by pharmacies.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to provide for compliance enforcement regarding Russian violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, and for other purposes.

S. 445

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 473

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Washington

(Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 473, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make qualification requirements for entitlement to Post-9/11 Education Assistance more equitable, to improve support of veterans receiving such educational assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 544

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 544, a bill to amend Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes.

S. 583

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 583, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds to hire veterans as career law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 593

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to facilitate the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain States.

S. 616

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 616, a bill to amend section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services as members of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and to require the Committee to consider the security of the food and agriculture systems of the United States as a factor to be considered when determining to take action with respect to foreign investment, and for other purposes.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 623, a bill to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in devel-

oping countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, and for other purposes.

S. 655

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 655, a bill to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in logging operations from child labor laws.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 692

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 692, a bill to provide for integrated plan permits, to establish an Office of the Municipal Ombudsman, to promote green infrastructure, and to require the revision of financial capability guidance.

S. 733

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 733, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

S. 751

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 751, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 774

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 774, a bill to address the psychological, developmental, social, and emotional needs of children, youth, and families who have experienced trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 792

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish an H-2B temporary non-agricultural work visa program, and for other purposes.

S. 796

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 796, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend

the exclusion for employer-provided education assistance to employer payments of student loans.

S.J. RES. 11

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 11, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation”.

S. RES. 54

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 54, a resolution expressing the unwavering commitment of the United States to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 803. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny tax deductions for corporate regulatory violations; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am reintroducing, along with Senator GRASSLEY, the Government Settlement Transparency and Reform Act. This bill closes a loophole in the Tax Code that allows corporations to claim tax writeoffs for payments made at the direction of the government to settle investigations into illegal and abusive corporate behavior.

Corporations accused of illegal activity routinely settle out of court with government agencies because it allows all parties to avoid the time, expense, and uncertainty of going to trial. While there is nothing wrong with settlements that correct wrongful corporate practices and compensate for the resulting harm caused by a corporation, the Tax Code often permits offending companies to claim a business tax deduction for any portion of a settlement that is not paid directly to the government as a penalty or fine for a violation of the law. The Tax Code on this point is vague, and big businesses exploit this by characterizing settlement penalties as tax-deductible business expenses.

Illegal corporate behavior is not an ordinary business activity, and it shouldn't be subsidized by taxpayers. Yet, according to a 2015 study by U.S. Public Interest Research Group, PIRG, corporate settlements over a single 3-year period totaled nearly \$80 billion, and corporations could claim business deductions for at least \$48 billion of that amount. Moreover, there is no consistent, transparent way to track how these settlements can and will be treated by businesses for tax purposes.

The Reed-Grassley bill addresses these problems by amending the Tax